In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 3, 30, and 41 as follows:

1. (currently amended)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams performed by an electronic calendar meeting scheduling program, said method comprising the steps of:

storing meeting settings and invitees data for a meeting <u>for each of the delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams</u>; said meeting settings and invitees data including an invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data;

identifying a solution time block for automated meeting scheduling including at least a subset of a plurality of selected invitees utilizing said stored invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data.

2. (original)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 1 wherein said step of identifying said solution time block for automated meeting scheduling including at least said subset of a plurality of selected invitees includes the steps of identifying said subset of said plurality of selected invitees including at least one of an identified minimum number of said plurality of selected invitees; a quorum for a meeting scheduled; and a substitute for one or more of said plurality of selected invitees.

3. (currently amended)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 1 wherein the step of storing meeting settings and invitees data for said meeting <u>for each of the delegates,</u>

representatives, quorums, and teams; said meeting settings and invitees data including an invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data includes the steps of storing a required time period for said meeting, an earliest meeting date; a latest meeting date; and said selected invitees to said meeting.

4. (original)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 1 includes the steps of calculating a selection score for each potential time block for automated meeting scheduling utilizing said stored meeting settings and invitees data including said invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data.

5. (original)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 4 includes the steps of sorting said potential time blocks for automated meeting scheduling by highest calculated selection scores.

6. (original)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 4 wherein the step of identifying said solution time block for automated meeting scheduling including at least said subset of said plurality of selected invitees utilizing said stored invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data includes the steps of identifying said solution time block for automated meeting scheduling including at least said subset of said plurality of selected invitees utilizing said calculated selection score for each potential time block.

7. (original) A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 4 wherein the step of calculating said selection score for each potential time block for automated meeting scheduling includes the steps of identifying a potential time block marked as unusable and setting said selection score to unusable.

8. (original) A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 4 wherein the step of calculating said selection score for each potential time block for automated meeting scheduling includes the steps of increasing said selection score for each available quorum member; and checking for a quorum of available quorum members.

9. (original) A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 8 includes the step responsive to identifying less than said quorum of available quorum members, of setting said selection score to unusable.

10. (original) A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 8 includes the steps responsive to identifying said quorum of available quorum members, checking for each required attendee whether said required attendee is available; and increasing said selection score for each available required attendee.

11. (original) A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 10 includes the

step responsive to identifying said required attendee is not available, of checking for each available delegate for identifying an available delegate.

12. (original)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 11 includes the step responsive to not identifying an available delegate, of setting said selection score to unusable.

13. (original)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 12 includes the steps responsive to identifying an available delegate, checking for requires consultation, and responsive to not identifying requires consultation, increasing said selection score by an identified delegate value; and storing said identified available delegate.

14. (currently amended)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 12 includes the steps responsive to identifying requires consultation and an attendee available for consult, storing said attendee available for consult and increasing said selection score by said identified delegate value; and storing said identified available delegate.

15. (original)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 4 wherein the step of calculating said selection score for each potential time block for automated meeting scheduling includes the steps increasing said selection score for each available team member; and storing a list of available team members.

16. (original)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 15 includes the step of checking for a threshold number of available team members.

17. (original)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 16 includes the steps of responsive to identifying less than said threshold number of available team members, setting said selection score to unusable.

18. (original)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 16 includes the steps responsive to identifying said threshold number of available team members, of checking for each individual consultant whether said individual consultant is available for consultation.

19. (original)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 18 includes the steps responsive to identifying said individual consultant is not available for consultation, of setting said selection score to unusable.

20. (original)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 15 includes the steps of increasing said selection score for each team member consulting; and checking for a threshold number of team members consulting.

21. (original)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 20 includes the

steps responsive to identifying less than said threshold number of team members consulting, of setting said selection score to unusable.

22. (original) A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 1 wherein the step of identifying said solution time block for automated meeting scheduling including at least said subset of said plurality of selected invitees utilizing said invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data includes the steps of performing an approve meeting routine for a solution time block; and checking for a scheduled status responsive to performing said approve meeting routine.

23. (original) A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 22 further includes the steps responsive to identifying said scheduled status, of performing a finalize meeting routine.

24. (original) A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 22 further includes the steps responsive to not identifying said scheduled status, of releasing blocked off time for said solution time block and marking said solution time block as unusable.

25. (previously presented) A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 22 wherein the step of performing an approve meeting routine includes the steps for each attendee and consultant, of blocking off calendar for said solution time block and inviting each said attendee and consultant.

26. (previously presented)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 25 wherein the steps of blocking off calendar for said solution time block and inviting each said attendee and consultant includes the steps blocking off calendar for said solution time block and inviting each delegate.

27. (original)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 25 includes the steps for each team of identifying a number of team members to invite; blocking off calendar for said solution time block and inviting said identified number of team members.

28. (original)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 23 wherein said step of performing said finalize meeting routine includes the steps for each non-consulting attendees, of converting blocked off calendar for said solution time block to meeting time block.

29. (original)   A method for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 24 includes the steps for each rescheduled meeting, of sending rescheduled notices.

30. (currently amended)   A meeting scheduler for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams comprising:

an electronic calendar meeting scheduling program storing meeting settings and invitees data for each of the delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams for a

meeting; said meeting settings and invitees data including an invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data; and

said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program utilizing said stored invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data to identify a solution time block for automated meeting scheduling including at least a subset of a plurality of selected invitees.

31. (currently amended)   A meeting scheduler for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 30 wherein said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program identifying said solution time block for automated meeting scheduling including at least said subset of a plurality of selected invitees including said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program identifying said subset of said plurality of selected invitees including at least one of an identified minimum number of said plurality of selected invitees; a quorum for a meeting scheduled; and a substitute for one or more of said plurality of selected invitees.

32. (original)   A meeting scheduler for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 30 includes said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program utilizing said stored meeting settings and invitees data including said invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data to calculate a selection score for each potential time block for automated meeting scheduling.

33. (original)   A meeting scheduler for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 32 wherein

said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program utilizing said stored invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data to identify said solution time block for automated meeting scheduling including at least a subset of a plurality of selected invitees includes said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program utilizing said calculated selection score for each potential time block for automated meeting scheduling to identify said solution time block for automated meeting scheduling.

34. (original)   A meeting scheduler for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 32 wherein said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program utilizing said stored meeting settings and invitees data including said invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data to calculate said selection score for each said potential time block for automated meeting scheduling includes said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program providing an increased selection score based upon each available quorum member.

35. (original)   A meeting scheduler for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 32 wherein said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program utilizing said stored meeting settings and invitees data including said invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data to calculate said selection score for each said potential time block for automated meeting scheduling includes said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program providing said selection score set to unusable

based upon identifying less than a quorum of available quorum members; identifying an insufficient number of available team members; or identifying an insufficient number of available consulting team members.

36. (original)   A meeting scheduler for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 32 wherein said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program utilizing said stored meeting settings and invitees data including said invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data to calculate said selection score for each said potential time block for automated meeting scheduling includes said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program providing an increased selection score based upon each available required attendee.

37. (original)   A meeting scheduler for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 32 wherein said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program utilizing said stored meeting settings and invitees data including said invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data to calculate said selection score for each said potential time block for automated meeting scheduling includes said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program providing an increased selection score based upon each available delegate.

38. (original)   A meeting scheduler for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 32 wherein said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program utilizing said stored meeting

settings and invitees data including said invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data to calculate said selection score for each said potential time block for automated meeting scheduling includes said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program providing an increased selection score based upon each available team member.

39. (original)   A meeting scheduler for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 32 wherein said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program utilizing said stored meeting settings and invitees data including said invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data to calculate said selection score for each said potential time block for automated meeting scheduling includes said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program providing an increased selection score based upon each individual consultant.

40. (original)   A meeting scheduler for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams as recited in claim 32 wherein said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program utilizing said stored meeting settings and invitees data including said invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data to calculate said selection score for each said potential time block for automated meeting scheduling includes said electronic calendar meeting scheduling program providing an increased selection score based upon each team member consultant for each team consulting.

41. (currently amended)   A computer program product for automated meeting scheduling using delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams, said computer program product including a plurality of computer executable instructions stored on a computer readable medium, wherein said instructions, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform the steps of:

storing meeting settings and invitees data for each of the delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams for a meeting; said meeting settings and invitees data including an invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data;

calculating a selection score for each potential time block for automated meeting scheduling utilizing said stored meeting settings and invitees data including said invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data; and setting said selection score to unusable responsive to identifying less than a quorum of available quorum members; identifying an insufficient number of available team members; or identifying an insufficient number of available consulting team members;

discarding each said potential time block having said selection score set to unusable;

identifying a solution time block for automated meeting scheduling utilizing said invitee attendance type, delegates, representatives, quorums, and teams data with said calculated selection score for each said potential time block.